



# NEWS



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## **CALIFORNIA MOTORISTS URGED TO SHARE THE ROAD**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Motorcyclists in California are fortunate to enjoy near-perfect riding conditions year round. The beautiful weather is just one of several reasons why more than 1.2 million people in this state are licensed to ride. It's important to remember these motorcyclists are sharing California's road with millions of other motorists.

“Regardless of your mode of travel, it is imperative that motorists are aware of their surroundings, abide by the state's traffic laws, and safely share the road with others,” said California Highway Patrol (CHP) Commissioner Joe Farrow.

During the next several months, the CHP will use a federal grant to assist in reducing the number of people killed and injured in motorcycle-involved collision. The Department continues to improve safety for everyone by placing an emphasis on the concept of sharing the road. Enforcement and education efforts through the *California Motorcycle Safety Enforcement and Education* grant will continue through September 30, 2012.

Motorcycle-involved collisions have decreased significantly in California. Statistical data retrieved from the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System list the number of people killed in motorcycle-involved collisions dropped 28 percent, and the number of people injured decreased by nearly 11 percent. The most current final figures available are from 2009.

“It's encouraging to see so many lives have been saved, but there is more work to be done,” added Commissioner Farrow. “Without a continued focus on motorcycle safety education and enforcement, these numbers could rise as more Californians choose to use motorcycles as their vehicle of choice.”

To help get the word out and continue to reduce the number of people killed and injured annually in motorcycle-involved collisions, CHP personnel are appearing at public outreach events throughout the state, distributing informational brochures, and providing traffic safety tips. In addition, motorcycle safety and road-sharing presentations are being conducted statewide. The CHP will also launch a media campaign to highlight the motorcycle safety message.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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